

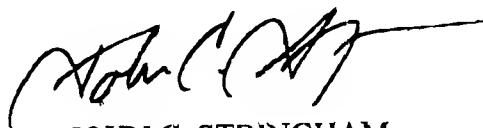
potential reference. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's willingness to discuss the present application in a telephonic interview on December 9, 2002.

CONCLUSION

In view of the response submitted herein, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection is requested and allowance of those claims is respectfully solicited. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that could be clarified in a telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully invited to initiate the same with the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 10th day of December 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



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